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A Sketch of
Lebanon Springs.



Class F129

Book L4G1



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A Sketch of

Lebanon Springs.

Its Attractions as a Summer Resort--
A Visit to the Shakers--History
of the Town--Columbia
Hall--Railroad
Guide, &c.

PUBLISHED BY

DANIEL GALE,

Proprietor Columbia Hall.

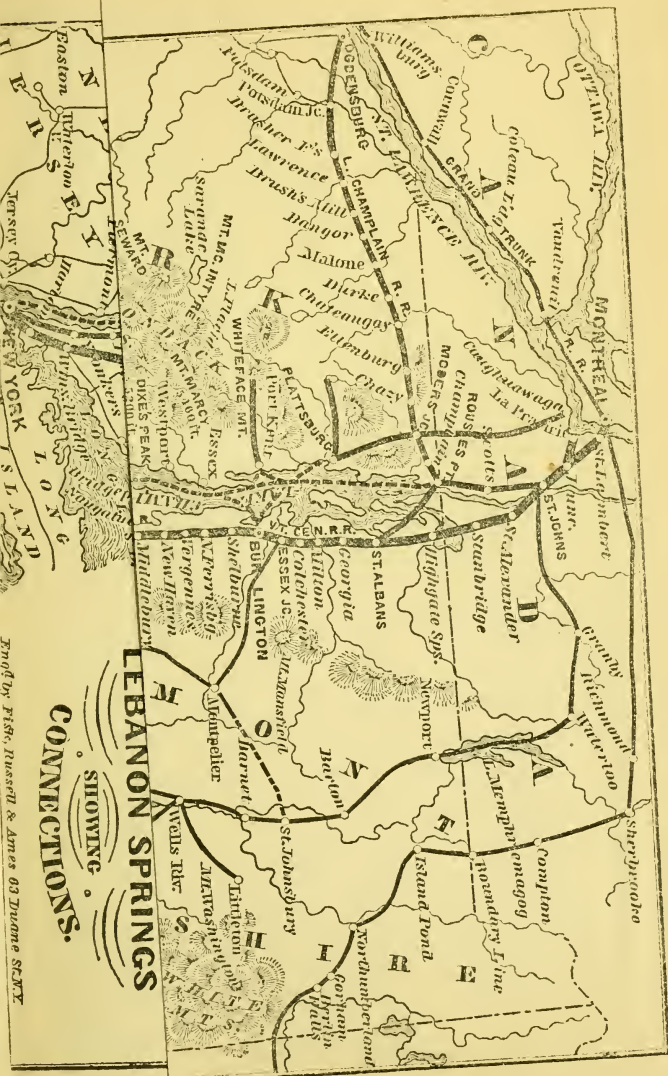
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LEBANON SPRINGS

SHOWING
CONNECTIONS.

Columbia Hall,



DANIEL GALE,

(FORMERLY OF FORT WILLIAM HENRY HOTEL, LAKE
GEORGE,)

—❖❖— Proprietor, —❖❖—

LEBANON SPRINGS,
COLUMBIA COUNTY, N. Y.
1872.

—◆◆—

I beg to announce that since I purchased the COLUMBIA HALL property, (September, 1871,) I have been making extensive alterations and repairs, and for the benefit of those who have visited the Springs, would state that the front of the house was changed in 1870 from east to south, new piazzas put up, a new Bath House built, complete in all

its appointments, refurnished many of the rooms, and put in the house all the requisites to make it a

FIRST-CLASS HOTEL

in every respect. I have at work a Landscape Gardener, thoroughly educated to his business, beautifying and ornamenting the grounds, which now compose about

THIRTY-EIGHT ACRES.

With the proverbially healthy locality, natural advantages and improvements, we design making Lebanon Springs one of the

Most Popular Watering Places

IN THE COUNTRY.

This Hotel has

Ample Accommodations for Four Hundred Guests.

Open from June 1st to October 1st.

Amusements.

Drives, Walks, Bowling, Hunting, Fishing, Billiards, &c.

I have erected a new building this year for three of Messrs. Kavanagh & Decker's "A" No. 1 first-class Billiard Tables, and new Bowling Alleys, and made three fine lawns for Croquet.

Livery.

In connection with the Hotel is a good livery, where horses and carriages can be found; also ample accommodations for private carriages and horses.

Music.

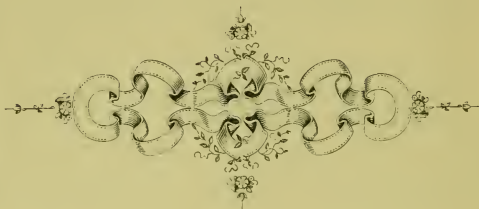
PROF. GIESEMAN'S BAND, from New York City, will be in attendance throughout the season.

Telegraph.

The Western Union Telegraph Co. have an office in the building.

Reading.

A stand is kept in the Hotel, where books, periodicals, and daily papers, may be found.



LEBANON SPRINGS,

COLUMBIA COUNTY, N. Y.



THIS VILLAGE contains three Hotels. COLUMBIA HALL, a large and magnificent Hotel, of which Daniel Gale is proprietor, is situated on the slope of the hill about three hundred feet above the valley, and one thousand feet above tide water.-- WYOMANOCK HOUSE, a branch of Columbia Hall, W. F. Gale, proprietor, open the year round, directly opposite Columbia Hall.— FIELDS' HOTEL, John G. Fields, proprietor, open the year round, situated in the valley, all of which have good accommodations;

besides three stores, Kendall's Thermometer and Barometer manufactories, Baptist, Episcopal, Catholic and Presbyterian Churches, but a short distance from the Springs.

The Scenery, which characterizes this spot, is of almost indescribable beauty, being so diversified by Mountain and Valley Landscape, as to elicit the most unbounded admiration of the beholder. The general remark of travelers has been, that no prospect they had ever seen could bear a comparison with it.

Its healthfulness, also, is proverbial, conducive of which is the pure Mountain air, the Mineral Spring, beautiful drives, Hunting and Fishing, and the usual variety of local amusements.

Before the Revolution the efficacy of the water began to excite great interest, and many families from different cities have become so much attached to the place that they have made it their summer home for more than twenty consecutive years. The hillslopes which guard the valley present eligible sites for cottages.

Not more than five hours at the most, and the New York passenger will find himself at the depot, a short distance from the "Hall." The completion of the Harlem Extension

Railroad renders it easy of access. There is no change of cars, and a person is in no danger of losing his *connections*, his *friends*, or his *baggage*. Standing on the piazza, we look over the Lebanon Valley, bounded on the east by the Berkshire hills, on the south and west by the West Range. To the northwest the valley reaches away in fertile beauty to the pleasant village of Nassau, on the road to Albany. Maple Hill, to the southeast, rises with an easy slope from the clustering hamlet at our feet, and a mile distant lies the village of New Lebanon. The Wyomanock Creek, (its name of Indian origin,) flows through the valley, blending its waters with the Kinderhook on its way to the Hudson. It seems to be "shut in by hills from the rude world"—and a poetic quiet rests over this picture in repose like that which (in our imagination) rested upon the halls of Merrie England. It seems to carry one back to the days of Spenser, when nature found true worshippers in verse: or still further back to the Augustan age, when the Campagna was a garden instead of a desert, and pastoral poetry was quoted in the palaces of the Cæsars. From the days of "Queechy" to the visit of Sir Henry Vincent, a little more than a year ago,

every writer has been enthusiastic in speaking of this lovely section. Vincent, in his letter, says: "Hills, mountains, valleys, trees, gardens, farm-houses, and farms spread around and above you in ever-varying beauty, reminding one of the hills and valleys of Langollen in Wales." And you remember in Miss Warner's "Queechy" a fine description of the view from one of the neighboring hills.

"They (Fleda and Carleton) had reached a height of the mountain that cleared them a view, and over the tops of the trees they looked abroad to a very wide extent of country undulating with hill and vale—hill and valley alike far below at their feet. Fair and rich the gently swelling hills, one beyond another in the patchwork dress of their many-colored fields—the gay hues of the woodland, softened and melted into a rich autumn glow—and far away beyond even where this glow was softened and lost in the distance, the faint blue line of the Catskills, faint but clear and distinct through the transparent air. And such a sky! Of such etherealized purity as if made for spirits to travel in, and tempting them to rise and free themselves from the soil; and stillness—like nature's hand laid upon the soul, bidding it think." Little Fleda


at Montepoole takes one far back into the history of Lebanon when the old sycamore cast a smaller shadow ; when stages and coaches connected with tide-water at Albany ; when Irving was the wandering Knickerbocker of the Hudson, writing at old Kinderhook, at the house of his friend Mr. Van Ness, the history of New York.

It hardly seems possible that in the year 1770 a town pauper declared that he would not put a brush fence about the valley to have been its owner. The whole valley was an immense pine forest, some of the trees being two hundred feet in height. It is said that a man by the name of Hitchcock, from New Haven, stuck a riding stick into the spring. It has now grown into one of the finest sycamores in the world.

Montepoole, or "Columbia Hall," has progressed with a steady growth, and now it has almost a half mile of verandas. The Mountain Bower, on Prospect Hill, is completed. It is located to the west of the Hall, and one hundred feet above it. It is about half way to the Pinnacle, which, at the height of three hundred feet, overlooks the valley. If the beauty of the landscape which from every point meets and focalizes itself in the soul as

we stand on this eminence, could be written in words or impressed on electrotpe plates, it might be worth while, but not understanding the art of spiritual photography, we can only say, in the words of Goldsmith, "Every breeze breathes health, and every sound is but the echo of tranquility;" or, in older English, we would lead you

"To painted flowers, to trees upshooting hye,
To dales for shade, to hills for breathing space,
To trembling groves, and chrystall running by."

 Persons desiring to apply for rooms by letter or telegraph, will please address the Proprietor,

DANIEL GALE,

Lebanon Springs, Columbia Co., N. Y.





THE SPRING.

THE THERMAL SPRING is enclosed in the court-yard of the Hotel. It discharges constantly nearly five hundred gallons of water per minute, of the temperature of 73° F., and supplies a bathing house within the enclosure. These baths are a luxury to all who partake of them, and are especially recommended by physicians as a specific in many diseases, and have been found as efficacious as the warm medicinal Springs of Germany and Virginia, for the complaints for which they are visited.

Analysis of Lebanon Springs Water, by Prof. H. Dussauce.

FOUND IN ONE GALLON OF WATER.

GASES.

Oxygen, . . . 2 00 cubic inches	Carbonic Acid, . . . 0 50 cubic inches.
Nitrogen, . . . 3 50 “	Sulphuric Acid, . . . traces.

FIXED MATTERS.

Sulphuret of Sodium,.....	0.02	grains—	1.298	per ct.
Carbonate of Soda,.....	2 41	"	15 649	"
Sulphate of Potash,.....	1.04	"	6.753	"
Chloride of Sodium,.....	0 96	"	6.233	"
Carbonate of Lime,.....	4 05	"	26 292	"
Sulphate of Magnesia,.....	1.06	"	6.883	"
Alumina,.....	0.45	"	2 629	"
Oxide of Iron,.....	0 94	"	6 103	"
Silicic Acid,	3 25	"	21.100	"
Org. Comp. } Glarine,	0.75	"	4.870	"
} Baregine,	9.47	"	2 190	"
			<hr/>	
			15.40	100.000

Many eminent physicians, acquainted with its properties, have recommended its use for the following, viz : Eczema, Flesh Poisoning, Impetigo, many varieties of Erysipelas, Scald Head, Cutaneous Diseases generally, Arthritis, Morbid Conditions of the Liver, Constipation, Dyspepsia, Chronic and Inflammatory Rheumatism, Bronchia, and Nervous Diseases generally.

A resident Physician of high standing in the profession, will render his service when desired.





THE BATH HOUSE is a new brick building, just completed, located in the Court Yard of the Hotel, 87 feet long by 32 feet wide, with French roof. The ladies part of the house contains a reception room, nine apartments with both hot and natural spring water baths, swimming bath, and swimming bath for children. The gentlemen's building contains ten apartments, with both hot and natural spring water baths, and a swimming bath 30 feet long. All the inside arrangements are modern and of the most approved kind. With the well known invigorating qualities of the water for bathing, together with having so great a luxury convenient to the hotel, and the benefit visitors receive by bathing in the water, it will amply repay them for taking a trip to Lebanon Springs.

GENERAL DIRECTIONS TO REACH LEBANON SPRINGS.

FROM NEW YORK—Most direct by the Harlem Railroad, 26th Street and 4th Avenue, morning and afternoon trains.

By Day Boats—Land at Hudson, thence to Chatham 4 Corners and Harlem Extension.

FROM WEST POINT OR CATSKILL—By Boat or Railroad to Hudson, thence to Chatham 4 Corners and Harlem Extension.

FROM SARATOGA SPRINGS—By Railroad to Albany, thence by Boston & Albany Railroad to Chatham 4 Corners, and Harlem Extension ; or to Rutland, Vt., and thence by Harlem Extension direct.

FROM NIAGARA FALLS—To Albany and by Albany & Boston Railroad, as above directed.

FROM BOSTON OR THE EAST—By Boston & Albany Railroad to Chatham 4 Corners, and Harlem Extension.

WHITE MOUNTAINS—The Map will serve as a guide for parties to or from the White Mountains, desirous of stopping at Lebanon Springs.

A decorative frame with ornate scrollwork on the left and right sides, enclosing the word "DRIVES." in a serif font. Below the word, a small number "4" is visible.

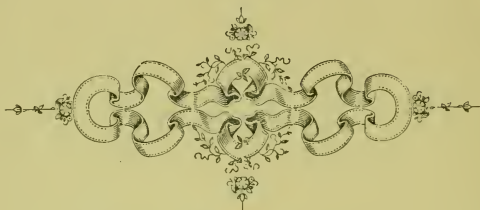
DRIVES.

THE DRIVES in the neighborhood of the Springs are unsurpassed by any watering place in the country, whether it be along the beautiful valley roads leading to Nassau, to Queechy Lake, and to Williamstown, Mass., or surmounting the hills and mountains which encompass the place in almost every direction, where new beauties open to the view with every mile. The ride from Lebanon to Pittsfield, over the Taghkanick mountain, is unsurpassed for beauty and magnificence, whether by the old post road from Boston to Albany, or by way of the Lebanon and Hancock Shaker villages. At every turn in the ascent, new beauties burst upon the enraptured traveler's view; and on the summit the country sixty miles in extent presents itself like a map at the feet of the beholder. Here in a clear day the distant Catskills may be seen from the Hildeberghs west of Albany, to the Sugar Loaf far below Catskill village. From many points the Catskill Mountain


House can be plainly seen with the naked eye, and stretches of the Hudson River traced, with steamers and sail vessels passing upon its waters. From a point a little distance from the highway, a good view of the upper part of the City of Albany can be seen, and with a good glass the buildings can be easily recognized. Perry's Peak, a station of the U. S. Coast Survey, lies within two hours drive from the hotel, and is frequently visited in the summer. Here an uninterrupted view can be made across the State of Connecticut to Long Island Sound. Douglass and Churchill knobs are also lofty elevations, sometimes visited, yet not so easily surmounted, but a view from their summits amply pays for the labor of their ascent. But the splendid drives in every direction, over good roads with more gentle grades, will satisfy most of those who love diversified and beautiful scenery, and who have not sufficient *poetic* ardor to climb the rugged mountain in order to see more.

DISTANCES.

Queechy Lake,.....	6 miles.	Shaker Village,.....	2 miles.
Pittsfield,.....	7 "	B. Y. Shakers,.....	2 "
Lenox,.....	12 "	Summit Berkshire Moun-	
Stockbridge,.....	12 "	tains,.....	3 "
Canaan,.....	7 "	Williamstown,.....	20 "
New Lebanon,.....	2 "	Mt. Washington,.....	18 "
Hancock,.....	5 "	Gt. Barrington,.....	21 "



THE SHAKERS.



THE largest Society in America of that religious sect known as the Shakers, is located within two miles of the Springs. They are visited annually by thousands of strangers, who take great interest in their peculiar manner of living and worship. Visitors are received into their various workshops and gardens, throughout the week, and are admitted to their church meetings on the Sabbath.

This Society is the largest in the United States. They number some six hundred persons, and have possessions of some six thousand acres of land, devoted to farming purposes, gardens for seeds and fruits, &c., which are everywhere famed for their quality.

A visit to this Society alone to attend their

worship on the Sabbath, and to possess articles of their workmanship, which are unique and useful, amply repays the visitor.

SIR HENRY VINCENT, the English Orator, writes: "Let me urge upon divines and scholars, in their rambles through America, to visit the Shaker community at Mount Lebanon, and if they are disposed to inquire, 'How can these things be?' my answer is, 'Come and see.'"

Prof. SILLIMAN says: "The utmost neatness is conspicuous in their fields, gardens, court-yards, out-houses, and in the very road; not a weed, not a spot of filth, or any nuisance, is suffered to exist. Their wood is cut and piled in the most exact order; their fences are perfect: even their stone walls are constructed with great regularity, and of materials so very massive, and so well arranged, that unless overthrown by force, they may stand for centuries. Instead of wooden posts for their gates, they have pillars of stone of one solid piece, and everything bears the impress of labor, vigilance and skill, with such a share of taste as is consistent with the austerities of their sect. Their orchards are beautiful, and probably no part of our country presents finer examples of agricultural

excellence. Such neatness and order is not seen anywhere on so large a scale, except in Holland, where the very necessities of existence impose order and neatness upon the whole population ; but here it is voluntary.

Besides agriculture, it is well known that the Shakers occupy themselves much with mechanical employments. The productions of their industry and skill—sieves, brushes, boxes, pails and other domestic utensils—are everywhere exposed for sale, and are distinguished by excellence of workmanship. Their garden seeds are celebrated for goodness, and find a ready market. They have many gardens, but there is a principal one of several acres, which exhibits superior cultivation.

Their females are employed in domestic manufactures and housework, and the community is fed and clothed by its own productions. The property is all in common. The avails of the general industry are poured into the treasury of the whole ; individual wants are supplied from a common magazine or store-house, which is kept for each family, and ultimately, the elders invest the gains in lands and buildings, or sometimes in money, or other personal property, which is held for the good of the Society. It seems somewhat

paradoxical to speak of a family, where the relation upon which it is founded is unknown. But still, the Shakers are assembled in what they call families, which consist of little collections (more or less numerous according to the size of the house) of males and females, who occupy separate apartments, under the same roof, eat at separate tables, but mix occasionally for society, labor, or worship.—There is a male and a female head to the family, who superintend all their concerns—give out their provisions—allot their employments, and enforce industry and fidelity. They profess, it is said, to believe that Christ has already appeared the second time on the earth, in the person of their great leader, Mother Ann Lee, and that the saints are now judging the world.

This singular people took their rise in England nearly a century ago, and the settlement at New Lebanon is of more than sixty years' standing. They first emigrated to America in the year 1774, under their spiritual mother, Ann Lee, a niece of the celebrated Gen. Charles Lee, who made a distinguished figure during the American Revolutionary War. The order, neatness, comfort and thrift, which are conspicuous among them, are

readily accounted for, by their industry, economy, self-denial and devotion to their leaders, and to the common interest, all of which are religious duties among them, and, the very fact that they are, for the most part, not burdened with the care of children, leaves them greatly at liberty to follow their occupations without interruption. They walk to the meeting-house, in order, two and two, and leave it in the same order. Men enter the left hand door of the meeting-house, and women the right hand. In each dwelling-house is a room called the meeting-room, in which they assemble for worship every evening. The young believers assemble morning and evening, and, in the afternoon of the Sabbath, they all assemble in one of these rooms, in their dwelling-house, to which meeting spectators, or those who do not belong to the Society, are not admitted, except friendly visitors. Their houses are well calculated and convenient. In the great house at Lebanon there is over a hundred ; the men live in their several apartments on the right, as they enter into the house, and the women on the left, commonly four in a room. They kneel in the morning by the side of the bed, as soon as they arise, and the same before they lie down ; also be-

fore and after every meal. The brethren and sisters generally eat at the same time at two long tables placed in the kitchen, men at one and women at the other ; during which time they sit on benches, and all are silent. They go to their meals walking in order, one directly after the other ; the head of the family, or elder, takes the lead of the men, and one called elder sister takes the lead of the women. Several women are employed in cooking and waiting on the table ; they are commonly relieved weekly by others.

It is according to the gift or order, for all to endeavor to keep all things in order ; indolence and carelessness, they say, is directly opposite to the gospel and order of God ; cleanliness in every respect is strongly enforced—it is contrary to order even to spit on the floor. A dirty, careless, slovenly or indolent person, they say, cannot travel in the way of God, or be religious. It is contrary to order to talk loud, to shut doors hard, to rap at a door for admittance, or to make a noise in any respect ; even when walking the floor, they must be careful not to make a noise with their feet. They go to bed at nine or ten o'clock, and rise at four or five ; all that are in health go to work about sun-rise,


in-door mechanics, in the winter, work by candle-light; each one follows such an employment as the deacon appoints for him. Every man and woman must be employed, and work steadily and moderately. When any are sick they have the utmost care and attention paid to them. When a man is sick, if there is a woman among the sisters, who was his wife before he believed, she, if in health, nurses and waits upon him. If any of them transgress the rules and orders of the Church, they are not held in union until they confess their transgression, and that often on their knees before the brethren and sisters.

Each Church in the different settlements has a house called the office, where all business is transacted either among themselves or with other people. Each family deposit in the office all that is to be spared for charitable purposes, which is distributed by the deacon to those whom he judges to be proper objects of charity. He never sends the poor and needy empty away."



NEW LEBANON:

A BRIEF HISTORICAL SKETCH.



IS there anything in a name! New Lebanon can boast of having an ancient Hebrew name, which has been always celebrated in the annals of sacred history. Among the states having townships called Lebanon, are Alabama, Connecticut, Illinois, Kentucky, New Hampshire and Virginia; while New York has two such townships. Of the names of early settlers of the Lebanon to which this notice refers, are those of Abbot, Adgate, Bailey, Bradley, Cole, Cornwell, Dean, Doubleday, Everest, Gay, Gilbert, Gillet, Grant, Hatch, Hitchcock,

Horton, Jones, King, Murdock, Owen, Patterson,—the not unromantic Peter Plum,—Spencer, Tilden, Van Deusen, Wadhams, Warner and Younglove. To this alphabetical list may be added,—though out of its place,—that of Douglass, borne here by a family of Scotch descent, and boasting a long line of noble ancestors. The name of Warner will always be honorably associated with the fame of the accomplished author of "Queechy." With the name of Gillet is happily associated one who, at "Wyomanock" and "Sunnyside," is known by a pet household name, which he has nobly gained by being the "good friend" to all with whom he has there met, and by kindly assisting those little favored by fortune, to gain a knowledge of books which otherwise they would have been unable to procure. Abner Doubleday was the grandfather of Gen. Abner Doubleday, of Fort Sumter fame. He and Jonathan Murdock were of those who constituted the "forlorn hope" at the storming of Stoney Point. Moses Younglove was a member of the convention to form a constitution of the State of New York. Many of the descendants of the afore-named persons still live among us as respected citizens.

The first white man permanently settled in the old town of Canaan, was doubtless named Warner. He came from New England thro' the gap in the mountains at West Stockbridge. Probably the first white man who ever visited New Lebanon, was Capt. Hitchcock of the British army, which was stationed at Hartford, Conn., about the time of the close of the French war. Capt. H. being afflicted with some severe and dangerous malady, was recommended to visit the valley and use the waters of the thermal spring in this town. He came with one servant and a company of Indian guides, and was carried from Stockbridge to the Springs on a litter by an Indian trail, there being no roads in the locality at that time. He found a large basin filled with water, and from appearances around it judged it to be a place of resort for the Indians for bathing purposes.

This was, perhaps, the first watering place in the United States visited by the "pale faces" over a hundred years ago. It is often called "Monte Poole." The mercury in the thermometer always standing at 72° , a temperature suitable for bathing at all times. It is said that one of the early settlers once riding by a spring stopped to water his horse,

and sticking his rude whip into the soft earth, rode off forgetting it, from which impromptu planting, sprang the gigantic button-wood tree which stands near the spring. Captain Hitchcock camped several days at the spring, and received great relief from the use of its waters. A few years after, he sold his commission and returned as a resident to New Lebanon, where he died, leaving a daughter, from whom descended one of our old and highly esteemed citizens, Nathaniel Nichols. Among later settlers was a Rev. Mr. Kendall, who first came here from Canada on the trail of the Indians, to whom he had gone as missionary. He afterwards dwelt in the valley, where his descendants still abide, and carry on extensive business in the manufacture of barometers and thermometers.

In this beautiful valley is the great medicine manufactory of Messrs. Tilden, unsurpassed by any in the country. Farther information may be obtained by visiting the establishment, where the kindest attention is bestowed upon the visitor.

A short distance from Messrs. Tilden & Co. is the celebrated Barometer and Thermometer manufactory of Mr. John Kendall, established many years ago. His Barometers and Ther-

mometers are known in every quarter of the globe. A very pleasant hour can be spent here examining the process of manufacturing.

About 1760 a house was erected near the Springs, and was doubtless the first one built in what is now called New Lebanon. This part of the town up to 1780 was considered a part of Massachusetts. Much difficulty existed at an early day between New York and the New England States in regard to their common boundary line. New York, indeed, originally claimed the Connecticut river as its eastern boundary. The General Court of Massachusetts made grants of land after the settlement of Pittsfield, extending nearly to the road which passes the dwelling of Dr. Bates; and still farther northward, an old road formerly existed and can still be traced through an orchard now owned by the heirs of Naomi Clark, which was once considered to be on the line between the two states. The line was established in 1786, though not without a great deal of trouble and a disagreeable law suit. An anecdote was current in early times that a man named Wadhams, (one of the early settlers,) after the Commissioners had fixed the state line, found his dwelling to be about four rods within the State of Massa-

chusetts. Accordingly a day or two after, he called his neighbors together with their teams and hitching the latter to the building, he moved it over the line into the State of New York. This building stood on the ground now occupied by the house of Elijah Bagg.

The first frame house in the town of Canaan (of which Lebanon was formerly a part, and was then called King's district,) was erected by William Gay on the hill near the Shaker grist mill. The second was built by Selah Abbot, near the Presbyterian Church.

The first church in the town of New Lebanon was erected nearly opposite Mott Cemetery, on land now owned by the Gillets. It was constructed of logs, and its worshippers were of the Presbyterian order.

New Lebanon claims the honor of having been first in instructing its Delegates in Congress to adopt a Declaration of Independence. Mechlenburg, N. C., had previously declared itself absolved from its allegiance to Great Britain.

A company was raised in the town of Canaan which was in service during the revolutionary war. The descendants of some who served still reside among us as our best citizens. Chancellor R. Livingston was appointed

delegate from this section to the Provincial Congress, and he was one of the committee appointed to prepare the Declaration of Independence. It was he who supplied Robert Fulton with means for developing the steam-boat. At the time of the battle of Bennington, Vt., April 10, 1776, two brothers, (ancestors of Hon. R. F. Gillett,) who happened to be, at the time, working near the top of the "west hill," distinctly heard the booming of the cannon, although they were a hundred miles distant from the scene of action.

The valley of New Lebanon is surrounded on all sides by mountains, which seem to shut out all the world beyond. From some of the summits may be obtained enchanting views of the valley and of the region beyond it. From "west hill" Mount Lebanon is distinctly visible. Its pleasant village clustered among the hills, forms a sort of city by itself. Here are the head-quarters of Shakerism in the United States. "Gilbert hill" is most frequently visited, where the finest views of the surrounding country are sought. From its summit the whole village is distinctly seen, and seems so diminutive that it has been compared to "fairy land teeming with life." From one of its southern points, in clear weather, boats

have been seen on the Hudson river, and, still beyond, the Catskill mountains, lifting their blue crests against the sky, which any but a close observer would mistake perhaps for clouds hovering about the horizon. Of such a scene the beautiful words of William Morris may be quoted as fitly descriptive :

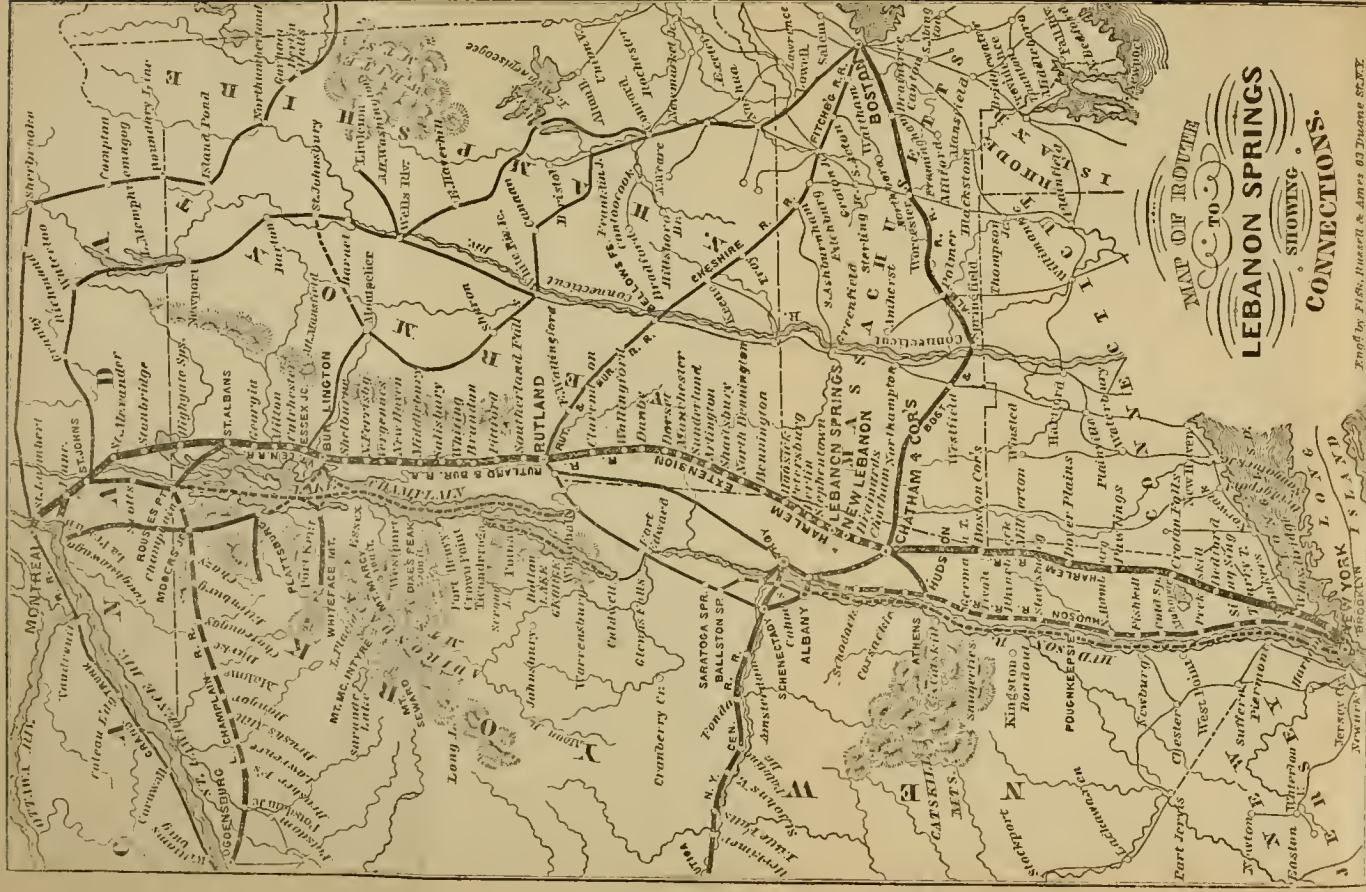
“As down into the vale he gazed
And held his breath as if amazed
By all its loveliness;
For as the sun its depths did bless,
It lighted up from side to side,
A close shut valley, nothing wide
But ever full of all things fair.”

The historian Bancroft once said with more force than elegance, perhaps : “ New Lebanon is the most beautiful valley on the top of the earth.”

The state of the country one hundred and fifty years ago; was strikingly different from its present aspect. Then it was a vast swamp completely covered with large pine trees, rendering it well nigh impassable. The Indians travelled across the mountain tops, but seldom venturing far into the wilderness of pines. The population fifty years ago was estimated to exceed greatly the present number of inhabitants. At that time the people had begun to remove some of the pine trees from the edge of the forests, and to build

nearer the foot of the mountains. After a time they left the heights altogether and settled in the valley.

“Wyomanock Seminary,” the individual enterprise of Miss E. C. Hatch, was established about 1858, and incorporated in 1865 by the legislature of New York. The first small building was greatly enlarged in 1867, and the whole destroyed by fire January 6, 1869, since which time the school has found pleasant quarters in the old Tilden mansion, near the church. The beneficial effect of this Institution is seen far and near upon those preparing for, or entering upon, the busy scenes of life. The influence of Miss Hatch has extended over the whole country, and she is highly esteemed for the increasing efforts which she has put forth to promote the well being of those placed under her care. Thro’ her kindness and that of our good “Saint Wyomanock,” many acknowledge with grateful hearts, advantages received from those whose motto is, “Do unto others as you would that others should do unto you.” Many also remember the care with which they have been watched over by Miss Hatch when compelled, by sickness, to relinquish school duties for a time.



MAP OF ROUTE
TO
LEBANON SPRINGS
SHOWING
CONNECTIONS.



COLUMBIA HALL-LEBANON SPRINGS, N. Y.

J. MORRIS

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